

HARRISON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

120 N. Main Street

Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Phone: (856) 478-2016 Fax: (856) 418-1619

Margaret Q. Peretti, Ed.D.
Superintendent of School

Robert Scharlé
Business Administrator

Lisa Heenan
Chief Academic Officer

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Harrison Elementary Principal

Lori Hynes
Director of Student Services

Karen Russo Ed.D.
Pleasant Valley Principal

Chad Flexon
Harrison Elementary Supervisor of Instruction

Diane Eisenhart
Instructional Supervisor

Christine Fellona
Pleasant Valley Assistant Principal



Preschool Inclusion Program 2024-2025 Application Information Cover Letter

Dear Harrison Township Parents/Guardians:

The Harrison Township School District will be offering a preschool inclusion class for the 2024-2025 school year. The goal of the inclusion program is to bring together special needs children with their typically developing peers in a collaborative classroom environment. Students will experience a variety of early reading and math concepts, language development, fine and gross motor skills, and social skills.

Preschool sessions will be held in the morning from 8:30 to 11:00 am and in the afternoon from 12:30 to 3:00pm at the Harrison Township Elementary School. The session will last 2.5 hours per day, five days a week, based on the district calendar.

The classes will comprise of approximately fifteen to sixteen three and four year-old children. The ratio of typically developing children to students with special needs will not exceed 8 to 8. The cost of the program for typically developing children for 2024-2025 will be \$3,200 per year.

In order to be considered into this program, there are five requirements that must be met:

- Families must be residents of Harrison Township
- Families must be willing to provide transportation
- Students must be four years of age on or before October 1, 2024
- Students must be toilet trained and should have age-appropriate skills in all areas of development
- Students must have up-to-date immunizations

Placement in either session is based on a multiple of factors, including, but not limited to: class size, boy/girl, age, and special education student ratio(s) and needs. Student sessions will be determined by the district. Unfortunately, parent input will not be taken into consideration as it would be too difficult to honor. Families will be notified in early March if their child will be included in the program as well as which session their child has been assigned to.

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Participation of children with disabilities will be identified by their IEP team. Any child who has met the criteria for Special Education and has, or will have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) does not go through the lottery for placement.

If you are interested in enrolling your non-special needs child in our preschool class, please complete the attached application, sign, and return it on/or before Friday, February 23, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. (mailed applications must be postmarked by Thursday, February 22, 2024) to the following address:

ATTN: Valarie Eastlack
2024-2025 Preschool Inclusion Program
Harrison Township School District
120 North Main Street
Mullica Hill, New Jersey 08062

If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available slots, a lottery will be held on Monday, March 4, 2024 to determine entry into the program. Applicant families will be notified of their application status through letters mailed on March 5, 2024.

Those offered enrollment will receive an *Enrollment Commitment Form*, *Student Information Questionnaire*, and *Registration Packet*.

- Families must return the *Enrollment Commitment Form*, *Student Information Questionnaire* and *\$160 deposit* to the Curriculum Department by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 25, 2024. Failure to return these items by the deadline shall constitute a refusal of enrollment.
- The *Registration Packet*, along with all required registration information, must be returned to the Harrison Township principal's secretary, Mrs. Kim Cinaglia, in the main office by June 24, 2024.

Applicants not initially offered admission will be assigned a place on a waiting list in the order determined by the lottery.

To apply for this program, complete the attached application and return no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 23, 2024. Applications faxed to 856.418.1619 or emailed to eastlackv@harrisonswp.k12.nj.us will be accepted up until 3:00 p.m. on Friday as well.

Please contact the Office of Curriculum at 856.478.2016, extension 7123, for additional information.

Sincerely,

Lisa Heenan

Lisa Heenan
Chief Academic Officer

Important Dates at A Glance

- ✓ Children who turn 3 or 4 years old by September 1, 2024 to enroll in the program.
- ✓ February 23, 2024 (Friday) – Applications Due
- ✓ March 4, 2024 (Monday) – Lottery Held (if necessary)
- ✓ March 5, 2024 (Tuesday) – Application Status Mailed (mailing includes inserts if selected)
- ✓ March 25, 2024 (Monday) – Enrollment Commitment, Student Questionnaire, and Deposit Due
- ✓ June 24, 2024 (Monday) – School Registration Packet Due